



Biography: Colonel Richard Mason

A Partnership for Safe Chemical Weapons Destruction

Commander, Blue Grass Army Depot

Colonel Mason took command of Blue Grass Army Depot in 2005. He came to the depot from the Middle East, where he served as chief of support for the Multinational Force and Observers. He was responsible for the planning and execution of logistics support for an 11-nation, 2,500-strong military and civilian force operating in the Sinai, Egypt under the Camp David Peace Accords. COL Mason also concurrently served as deputy commander for the U.S. Task Force Sinai, a brigade-size command consisting of two battalions and a headquarters element.

From June 2002 to June 2003, COL Mason was a staff officer at Department of the Army Headquarters (G4). He was responsible for developing policy and guidance for munitions management and readiness, including planning the movement and support of critical ammunition and missiles for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Prior to coming to the Pentagon, COL Mason served in Germany as commander of the 191st Ordnance Battalion and Miesau Army Ammunition Depot in Germany. The 191st Ordnance Battalion provided ammunition, parachute rigging, explosive ordnance disposal, cargo transfer and deployment support for all Army units in Europe, while Miesau Army Ammunition Depot was the Army's principal ammunition storage and maintenance facility in Europe. From 1996 to 2000, COL Mason served as a logistics plans officer for the Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps; during that time, he participated in operations in Bosnia and Kosovo. Other key assignments include serving as chief of the Brigade Materiel Management Center and Support Operations Officer for the 194th Separate Armored Brigade at Fort Knox, Kentucky; commander of the 60th Ordnance Company in Germany; the G4 missile and munitions staff officer for both V Corps in Germany and I Corps at Fort Lewis, Washington; an ammunition supply point control officer at Fort Lewis; and as a munitions materiel management officer at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, Oklahoma.

COL Mason's military education includes the Logistics Executive Development Course, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and a Master of Science in Logistics Management. His awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster; the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters; the Army Commendation Award with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters; the Kosovo Campaign Medal; two awards of the NATO Campaign Medal; the Multinational Force and Observers Medal; and the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

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